

## New Wage Board Tackles Huge Backlog of Cases

### AFL Meat Cutters' Case Listed for Priority Treatment

Washington.—The New Wage Stabilization Board tackled a huge backlog of 1,000 cases in an effort to give the country an equitable and workable wage stabilization policy.

Board members were sworn (May 8) by Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black and went immediately into session with Chairman George W. Taylor.

AFL members of the board are Vice President Harry C. Bates and W. C. Birdright and Elmer E. Walker, vice president International Association of Machinists.

The board consists of 6 labor, 6 industry and 6 public members with authority to settle disputes brought to it by the parties or certified by the President.

The board is expected to take swift steps to overhaul the rigid formula adopted by the industry and public members of the old discredited board over laborers' opposition.

This formula limited general wage increases to 10 percent above the January 1950 level and restricts the granting of so-called fringe issues such as vacations, holidays, pensions and welfare funds.

High on the list for priority treatment was the agreement between the AFL Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers, CIO Packinghouse Workers and the big four meat packers. Approval of this contract, which pierces the 1950 ceiling, has been delayed since its signing in February by the rigid wage formula.

Both unions and packers have extended their present agreements once more to May 30 to get the board a chance to approve the contract. Butcher Workers President Earl W. Johnson said the board had not heard him it would act quickly.

The wage board is the first of the mobilization agencies to get a full complement of labor members since the United Labor Policy Committee ended its 10-weeks holdout to win a greater measure of participation for labor in the defense mobilization set-up.

Other labor representatives are to take posts in Office of Defense Mobilization, Economic Stabilization, Price Stabilization, Manpower Committee, National Production Authority, Department of Defense.



"Portal Regulations will not permit me to express fully my feelings about high prices, but..."

Washington.—One of the new series of "Union Maid" cartoons distributed by the AFL News Service to bona fide labor newspapers.

### Kentucky United Labor Carries Defense Act Fight to Congressmen

Washington.—The Kentucky United Labor Policy Committee arranged to meet senators and congressmen from that state here May 15 to urge amendments to the Defense Production Act favored by labor.

The Kentucky delegation is the first reported statewide group to visit congressional representatives in labor's drive for an improved mobilization law to replace the one expiring June 30.

The Kentuckians scheduled a luncheon for 12:15 p.m., May 15, in the Vandenberg Room at the Capitol with Vice President Alben Barkley, Sen. Earle C. Clements and Sen. Thomas R. Underwood and nine representatives.

Edward H. Weyler, secretary-treasurer Kentucky State Federation of Labor, told AFL President William Green the group will present petitions to them asking their support for labor-supported amendments to the act.

### Council Convenes In Union Show City

#### Union Show to Have Own Postoffice

Chicago.—Local 1 AFL National Federation of Post Office Clerks will operate the AFL Union Industries Show post-office station by arrangement with Postmaster John Hadenfeldt and Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson.

Show visitors will see what happens from the time a letter is dropped in the mail slot until it is finally delivered. Stamps and money orders may be obtained at the station and there will be pick-up and delivery of show mail.

### Richardson Named To Advisory Board On Civil Defense

Washington.—George J. Richardson, secretary-treasurer AFL International Association of Fire Fighters, was appointed a member of President Truman's 12-man Civil Defense Advisory Council for a term of 3 years.

The appointment was announced on the opening of a national conference to prepare the CD organization. The United Labor Policy Committee had called for one member each from the AFL and CIO on the council and full participation by labor at all levels.

"Union members and their families are concentrated in the industrial and communications centers which would have priority as target areas for an attacking enemy," the committee said. Millard Caldwell, civil defense administrator, told Mr. Richardson "we are gratified by your patriotic willingness to serve; you will contribute much to the vital defense effort."

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council convenes here Monday, May 14, four days before the grand opening of the AFL Union Industries Show.

This is the first meeting of the council since the Miami session which sparked organized labor's drive for a full partnership in the nation's defense program.

At Miami, the council called for full labor participation "from top to bottom" in the Office of Defense Mobilization and Economic Stabilization Agency. The council also subsequently by the United Labor Policy Committee, composed of the AFL, CIO, Machineists and railroad brotherhoods, to form a greater voice in the effort.

That achievement is now being consolidated with the nomination of labor representatives to the staff of Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson and other agency heads dealing with mobilization.

Boulder reviewed the fight for greater participation—which required 10-weeks of mobilization program—the council is expected to open a legislative drive for new Defense Production Act, taxation, housing and other issues in the AFL program.

President William Green and other members of the council will participate in the formal opening of the AFL Union Industries Show at Madison Square Garden, New York, May 15. This exhibition, the world's greatest of its kind, will run every day through Saturday, May 26 with the biggest variety of interrelated exhibits and entertainment ever assembled for this show.

Thousands of AFL members throughout the Midwest are expected to attend.

The AFL vanguard moved into Chicago this week for meetings of the Metal Trades Department and the Building and Construction Trades Department.

Conventions of two AFL unions will be held also during the show. The International Union of Elevator Constructors and International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers open their sessions on May 21.

### Humphrey Starts India Grain Drive

Washington.—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, joined together in a nationwide campaign for "Friendship Grain" for the people of India.

AFL International Representative George F. Delaney has informed proposals that Congress send grain to India to relieve the famine threatening there.

Senator Humphrey asserts that Congress is guilty of tragic delay in taking action on these proposals. That is why he has launched the nationwide campaign.

Donations of grain may be made through the Christian Relief Overseas Program and donations of money may be made to "Friendship Grain, American National Red Cross, Foreign Operations, Washington, D. C."

Ambassador Wilaya Lakshmi Pandit has advised Senator Humphrey that the Indian government would pay the cost of interstate shipment and storage of grain and the cost of shipping the grain by water to India.

#### BILLINGSLEY DIES

San Francisco.—Floyd M. Billingsley, third vice president AFL International Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees, died May 2 of surgical shock following an operation. A native of Texas, Mr. Billingsley became a project engineer at Austin, Tex., and worked to the West Coast a few years later.

## The 'Smith -- A Talented Man Is He

By DAN SMITH  
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—A Longfellow's time, the American blacksmith was a brawny fellow who made shoes for horses and needed only a coal fire, a hand anvil and a chestnut tree to open for business.

Today the American blacksmith works in copper, brass, aluminum and steel as well as iron. He forges microscopic surgical instruments and mammoth crank shafts that weigh as much as 75 tons apiece.

He earns \$1.87 an hour, on the average. He works in a forge shop with locker rooms, shower baths and a cafeteria in the building. Accidents hit him and his fellow-workers at the rate of 16 per million man-hours worked.

Because of the changing time, the delegates of his union, the AFL International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers, voted at larger industrial unions of the American Federation of Labor.

Two AFL unions, the boilermakers and the machinists, sent their leaders to invite the blacksmiths to affiliate. The blacksmiths' own executive board advised affiliation with the boilermakers and the convention followed that recommendation.

As E. Wayne Patterson, general vice president, reported, the tendency

of American manufacturers to build their own forging units or buy up job shops is gradually shrinking the potential membership of the blacksmiths.

Since the beginning of mass production in the auto and farm equipment industries, forging has become concentrated more and more in "captive" shops, which forge exclusively for the owners use and not for sale on the open market.

As captive shops increased, representation of the employees was taken

over by rival organizations. Because of limitations on the bargaining unit made by the National Labor Relations Board under the Wagner and Taft-Hartley Acts it is now almost impossible for the blacksmiths' union to carve out the members of their own trade working in the captive shops.

"In spite of all the problems we must remember that our people are a blacksmith's trade has not become a 'lost art,'" said Mr. Patterson. "With the introduction of mechanical equipment in our industry, our people are

required to have more skill, more experience and more responsibility.

Training new men to maintain, adjust and determine basis of complicated alloys and to maintain normal volume of work has definitely elevated the work standards of our people. This greater responsibility should surely be reflected in higher earnings and craft protection."

American industry could hardly exist without the blacksmith's art, Mr. Patterson pointed out.

For the building trades mechanics the blacksmith makes hammers, saws, saws, hand wrenches, square, calipers and micrometers. For the shipbuilders, he makes anchor chains, propeller shafts and many parts of the power plant.

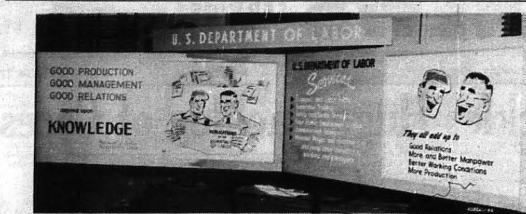
For the railroads, he makes drive rods and replacement parts of all the machinery and all parts of hammers and equipment for use in the industry under the blacksmith's present jurisdiction, which is about 125,000 men.

He makes parts for airplanes, axes for loggers, cylinder rolls for the paper maker, molds for the rubber industry, and all sorts of hammers and equipment for use in the industries under the blacksmith's present jurisdiction, which is about 125,000 men. Mr. Patterson was stated.

Photo: Bertha & Davis, 108 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

BLACKSMITHS VOTE MERGER WITH BOILERMAKERS.—Chicago.—Blacksmiths voted AFL Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, general president William A. Lee (center) speaking at Blacksmiths' convention which voted to merge union with AFL Boilermakers by 1953. Right, A. J. Iherbary, secretary-treasurer Blacksmiths.

# AFL Union Show Ready For Chicago Run May 18-26



**U. S. LABOR DEPARTMENT EXHIBIT**—Washington.—Here's a preview of the exhibit by one of the federal government departments at the AFL Union Industries Show, Soldier Field, Chicago, May 18-26. The left panel contains the message of Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin that "Good production, good management, good relations depend upon knowledge."



**BAKERY WORKERS PLAN SHOW BOOTH**—Chicago.—President William F. Schneider of AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union points out to General Secretary-Treasurer James G. Cross the carousel featured in the union's exhibit at the AFL Union Industries Show, May 18-26, at Soldier Field.



**BOTTLE BLOWERS AWARD**—Chicago, Ill.—President Lee Minton, AFL Glass Bottle Blowers Association, inspects spanking new Kaiser-Frazer "Henry J" car to be awarded at Soldier Field, Chicago, May 18-26, in connection with AFL Union Industries Show contest of skillful use of glass containers.

## Wage Board Calls First Meeting; Full 18-Man Panel Appointed

Washington. — President Truman filed the new Wage Stabilization Board. Chairman George W. Taylor promptly called the first meeting of the 18-man panel for May 8.

Members of the board are:

Public—Chairman Taylor; Nathan P. Feinsinger, University of Wisconsin law professor; William M. Hebborn, Emory University law professor; Frederick H. Bullen, executive secretary New York State Mediation Board; Clark Kerr, University of California professor; and John Dunlop, Harvard University economics professor. All served in the War Labor Board set-up of World War II.

Labor—AFL Vice President Harry Q. Bates, president Bricklayers; Vice President W. C. Hight, president Barbers; Elmer E. Walker, vice president Machinists; CIO Vice President Emil Rieve, president Textile Workers; John Livingston, vice president United Auto Workers; Joseph A. Beltrac, president Communications Workers.

Industry—Milton M. Olander, director industrial relations Owens-Illinois Glass Co., Toledo; Alexander

B. Heron, director industrial relations Crown-Zellerbach Corp., San Francisco; Richard P. Doherty, director employer-employee relations National Association of Broadcasters; Washington; Henry B. Arthur, director commercial research Swift & Co., J. Ward Keener, vice president B. F. Goodrich Co., Dayton, O.; Reuben B. Robertson, Jr., president Champion Paper Co., Hamilton, O.

The board was reconstituted by Mr. Truman and given authority over disputes on the recommendation of his National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policies. Public and farm members voted with labor members to reorganize the wage board. Industry was opposed.

The new board has a backlog of more than 800 cases to consider.

### WORK WEEK 41.1 HOURS

Washington.—The factory work week averaged 41.1 hours a mid-March, continuing at about the same high level that has been maintained for the last 8 months, according to preliminary estimates of the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Carousel Features Bakers' Exhibit

Chicago.—The AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union display at the AFL Union Industries Show, Soldier Field, Chicago, May 18-26, will feature a moving carousel decorated in the approved circus manner.

Around the carousel will be the Bakery Workers label. The familiar emblem will be spot-lighted and rotate counter-clockwise to the merry-go-round.

Whistling while they work, the outstanding cake decorators of the United States will display their skills and craftsmanship. Their work benches will be on the carousel which will enable the public to view the entire cake decorating operation without being crowded.

At least 10 beautifully decorated cakes will be given away each day decorated to the winners' orders.

The male chorus of Chicago Bears Local No. 2 will entertain daily during the run of the show.

## Radio Show Booked From Union Exhibit

Chicago.—The AFL Union Industries Show in Soldier Field will feature several radio broadcasts direct from the show site, May 18-26.

The AFL news broadcast by Frank Edwards will originate from the exhibition site on Mutual network Monday, May 21, through Friday, May 25, 10 p.m., EDT.

WCFL, owned and controlled by the Chicago Federation of Labor, will install a radio broadcasting hookup on the floor of the exhibition hall and will conduct personal interviews, have disc jockey show and report the news during the hours of the exhibition.

The Catholic Hour program will originate from the Union Industries Show at 2 p.m., EDT, on Sunday, May 20. The address, entitled "Your Son and the Army," will be by Maj. (Brig. Gen.) James H. O'Neill, deputy chief of the army chaplains.

Arrangements are being made to have other religious broadcasts stem directly from Soldier Field in Chicago. The Jewish hour is broadcast over WCFL at 9:30 in the morning of May 20. Invitations were extended to all faiths to participate by broadcasting their programs from the exhibition.

The Voice of America, conducted by the State Department, will also broadcast interviews with labor leaders from various spots among exhibits in the show on a world-wide network.

## So It Was ONLY 43 Percent

Washington.—The Chamber of Commerce of the United States is in with a complaint.

The Federal Trade Commission reported that manufacturers' profits increased 61 percent last year. The chamber finds fault:

"It stresses the 61 percent increase in profits before taxes whereas the increase after taxes was only 43 percent."

Any wage earner got 43 percent more last year?

## AFLers From Whole Midwest Expected to See World's Most Unusual Labor-Management Exhibition

Chicago.—By cable car and "surrey with the fringe on top" Chicagoans in 1901 traveled to a musty loft on West Washington St. to see something new in exhibits. Dwarfed by memory of the big 1893 Columbian Exposition, the 1901 show, sponsored by the Chicago Federation of Labor, was born of great enthusiasm—the city's first Union Label exhibit!

There—in the gas-lit hall—were the pride of the harnessmaker, horseshoer, cigarmaker, and the expert creators of collared collars. You paid 25c to get in—and you could explore the great labor-management exposition in history—the Union Industries Show. This industrial center of the nation is the largest city yet to be host to this nationally famous exposition.

"We're proud that our city has been selected as the site for the 1951 show," President William A. Lee of the Chicago Federation of Labor said. "The 500,000 members of the American Federation of Labor in the Chicago area will be there with their families—and they'll help welcome thousands of visitors from the great industrial, transportation and agricultural centers of the Midwest."

Interest in union-made products is traditional in Chicago. The Chicago Trades Union Label League was established in 1905—just one year before the organization of Chicago Federation of Labor. For 56 years the local Label League has carried on a brilliant job of educating union members and the public on the importance of buying union-made goods and using union services.

The Chicago Union Industries Show will be a striking example of labor-management cooperation. It is dynamic, educational and interesting. Entertainment will be furnished throughout day and night sessions. The best musicians in the world—union members—will add to the poise of the event with their sparkling and refreshing tunes.

Highlighting the show will be the numerous "live" exhibits, where pottery and bakery workers, cigar makers, printers, electricians and other skilled AFL union craftsmen will actually make and deliver the goods which have made America famous throughout the world.

Photo Key Features Syndicate, 234 W. 44th St., New York 18

**BIG MAN AT THE SHOW**—Chicago, Ill.—James P. Walsh, AFL Union Label Trades Department show representative (on sign), decides that Jack Earle, 8 ft. 6 in. high, wine salesman for Schenley Industries, Inc., isn't too tall to enter exhibit area at AFL Union Industries Show, Soldier Field, May 18-26.

**"UNION MAID"**

Washington.—One of the new series of "Union Maid" cartoons distributed by the AFL News Service to bona fide labor newspapers.

# United Labor Asks Congress To Assure Home Front Safety

## Meat Cutters Promised Fast Action On Pay Raise by New Wage Board

Photo Bruno Studio, 1925 10th Ave., San Diego, Calif.

PRESENT REPLICA TO ERNST—San Diego, Calif.—President Hugo Ernst (left) and Secretary-Treasurer Ed M. Miller (right) of AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union at press conference held by Mr. Ernst's union at City of Hope, national nonsectarian free institution for victims of cancer and tuberculosis, supported largely by nation's trade unions.

# Wilson Overhauls Manpower Set-up

Washington—Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson overhauled his manpower program to bring the U. S. Department of Labor and organized labor into the plan on an equal footing with his own appointments.

Mr. Wilson and Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin issued simultaneous orders to correct deficiencies of the manpower program severely criticized by the United Labor Policy Committee.

The system calls for full participation of labor officials at local and regional levels. Following are the text of the orders:

By Mr. Wilson—In order to assist the Director of Defense Mobilization to improve the coordination and effectiveness of federal policies and programs relating to manpower, it is hereby ordered:

1. There is hereby established in the Office of Defense Mobilization, a Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee consisting of representatives to be selected from the labor, industrial and agricultural management.

2. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization.

3. The Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee will have reference to all questions of policy relative to the mobilization, training and maximum utilization of manpower in the defense program, and shall make recommendations as to the action which in its judgment should be taken by the Office of Defense Mobilization. The committee may also, on its own motion, make recommendations on policies relating to the mobilization, training and maximum utilization of manpower in the defense program, which in its judgment should be considered by the Office of Defense Mobilization.

4. The Assistant to the Director of Defense Mobilization in charge of manpower problems, Dr. Arthur Flemming, shall serve as co-chairman of the committee and shall be responsible for relating the work of this committee to the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Defense Mobilization in the manpower field.

5. The Secretary of Labor may designate a co-chairman of this committee (Dr. Frank P. Graham) who will share the duties and responsibilities of the chairmanship, and who in addition shall be responsible for presenting the committee such matters as may be referred to it by the Secretary of Labor.

6. The committee may make such reference relative to time and place of meeting, attendance at meetings and order of business as are in its judgment necessary for the successful carrying out of the duties and responsibilities assigned to it.

7. Defense Mobilization Orders No. 8 and No. 6, insofar as they are in conflict with this order, are hereby modified to conform to the provisions of this order.

By Secretary Tobin—There are added to General Order No. 48, as amended March 10, 1951, the following new parts:

G. Designation of Certain Manpower Officials.

1. The Defense Manpower Administrator (Dr. Graham) of the Department of Labor is hereby designated as

the Department of Labor's representative to serve as co-chairman of the Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee created by ODM Order No. 9.

2. The regional directors of the Bureau of Employment Security are hereby appointed as regional directors of the Defense Manpower Administration.

3. The regional committees of the Defense Manpower Administration are hereby designated as co-chairmen of the Interagency Regional Committee on Defense Mobilization created by ODM Order No. 6, dated Feb. 9, 1951, as amended Feb. 27, 1951.

H. Establishment of Regional and Area Labor-Management Committees for Defense Manpower.

1. In order to obtain the advice, cooperation and understanding of management and labor in the solution of manpower problems at the regional and area levels, it is the policy of the Secretary of Labor that Regional and Area Labor-Management Committees for Defense Manpower be established in the regions and all labor market areas in which significant defense manpower problems exist or impend to advise and assist in bringing about community understanding of such manpower problems and bringing about community action necessary to their solution.

2. Regional Committees. Functions.—(1) The regional committees will assist in developing and coordinating over-all plans for the region which cannot be dealt with by area management-labor committees.

(2) The committee will deal with plans and proposals for areas not served by area committees.

(3) The committee will deal with regional aspects of the functions set forth for area committees.

(4) The committee should identify unused plant capacity and pools of surplus manpower and call them to the attention of appropriate procurement agencies or prime contractors.

b. Selection.—(1) The members of the committee shall be selected from the candidates for the regional committees.

(2) Appointment.—(1) The Secretary of Labor will appoint the committee.

4. Chairman.—(1) The regional directors of the Defense Manpower Administration shall be chairmen of the committees.

a. Composition.—The regional committees shall generally be composed of 8 members and the chairman, one from management, including one agricultural, and from labor.

If the committee exceeds 8 in number, there must be an equal representation from management and labor.

3. Area Committees. a. Functions.—The committee shall be responsible for the solution of immediate or impending problems of the area arising from the impact of the defense program. It advises as to courses of action considered to be most effective in the solution of problems peculiar to that area and aids in obtaining the active support of the community to the extent necessary to the solution of the problem.

(2) The principal manpower problems shall be the following categories:

(a) the assessment of manpower requirements and resources,

(b) the nature and extent of training

Washington—Top officials of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen have given definite assurance that their agreements with the packhouse industry will receive top priority when the new Wage Stabilization Board convenes.

Union President Earl W. Jenson said:

"We came to Washington to push our case before the government. The workers in the packhouse industry have waited a long time. We understand the administrative difficulties involved. The resulting delays, but in the meantime, hardships are mounting for our members and their families."

The officials discussed with the company the preservation of the retroactive pay of the packhouse workers from February 9, 1951, until the Board meets and renders its decision.

Mr. Jenson and Patrick Gorman, secretary-treasurer, have been in constant touch with the Wage Stabilization agency concerning the packhouse contracts which are awaiting approval since February 9, 1951.

Mr. Jenson said his committee appealed out to the board officials that it already has complete data upon which it could act quickly including the comprehensive list of the men appointed by Economic Stabilization Administrator, Eric Johnston.

If there are changes in the labor market situation which, in the judgment of the local employment office, make desirable the establishment of a committee, he should initiate a request for such action.

When matters considered by the Regional and Area Labor-Management committees involve the activities of departments and agencies other than the Department of Labor, the regional directors of the Defense Manpower Administration and the chairmen of the Regional Defense Committees will be able to arrange for a meeting, present the matter to the agencies concerned and urge favorable action on the recommendations of the Regional or Area Labor-Management committees in this manner, the Regional Defense committees can implement the work of the Labor-Management committees.

1. Selection.—The members of the committee will nominate members of the committee. The nominations will be submitted to the Regional Director of the Bureau of Employment Security. The members will be asked for their suggestions on panel of nominees.

c. Appointment.—(1) The Secretary of Labor will appoint the committee. A Certificate of Appointment will be issued by the secretary.

Chairman.—(1) The State Employment Security Administrator through the Regional Director of the Bureau of Employment Security will designate the chairman.

The chairman is to be a government employee.

(2) The Secretary of Labor will appoint the chairman. A Certificate of Appointment will be issued by the secretary.

b. Composition.—The committee shall generally be composed of 8 members and the chairman, with equal representation for labor and management. Where agriculture is a significant activity in the area, representation should include an appropriate number from this industry. A farm owner or employee of a corporation or association operating farms or representing such an organization should be considered as management. When there is no farm labor in the area, farm labor organizations should be represented on the committee. If no farm labor organization is available, the balance between management and labor should be maintained as a whole must be maintained.

4. Qualification for Membership.—Members of the committee shall be selected on the basis of local knowledge, responsibility, knowledge of labor and management problems within the local area, and willingness to devote the time necessary to carry out the purposes of the committee.

5. Regional Jurisdiction of Local Committees.—There shall be no management-labor committee which shall be given labor market area.

6. Establishment of Committees.—The Secretary of Labor will determine where and when Area Management Committees are to be established. The Bureau of Employment Security Regional Director in consultation with state directors shall make recommendations as to where committees are established. The department shall have the authority to give labor market information, if the Secretary of Labor is not satisfied to establish committees in advance of anticipated problems as revealed by the labor market report.

Washington—The United Labor Policy Committee called for more labor representation in the Federal Civil Defense Administration.

The committee said it was the widest possible utilization of the skills and resources of organized labor in protecting the home front and the nation from atomic attack.

The committee approved the following statement:

"Our government, and the other hand, must recognize that in planning and organizing effective Civil Defense programs, as in developing other defense-related programs, it is essential to utilize organized labor's skills and resources. The contribution of American labor to the nation's defense is only as effective as the civil defense administration makes use of the structure and machinery of the trade union movement."

Civil Defense cannot be organized as a program entirely apart from the other emergency programs of government. For example, it is clearly vital to the problems of recruiting and training personnel for the defense forces within defense production areas, that the defense forces be made up of men of full protective measures within the defense plant and industry. In the defense program, there are direct implications for production.

The Federal Civil Defense Administration, no less than those other arms of government concerned with the defense program, must recognize the fact that the defense program and the other emergency programs must be coordinated and must have full participation of qualified representatives of labor and management in advisory, policy implementation and operating levels.

The following steps should be taken immediately:

1. The organized labor, one from the AFL and one from the CIO, should be appointed to the President's National Civil Defense Advisory Council.

2. The President should appoint a general public, in addition to the six members representing state and local government, to the National Civil Defense Advisory Council.

3. The administrator should appoint operating staff representatives qualified through appropriate experience in the labor movement and the administration.

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# Blacksmiths Vote Berger With AFL Boltermakers

(Special to AFL News Service)  
Chicago—Convention delegates of the AFL Blacksmiths' International voted overwhelmingly to end their long history of separate union and amalgamate with their bigger sister, the Boltermakers' brotherhood.

The blacksmiths have no real intention of fading away, however. The amalgamation proposal was ratified by both unions will allow the blacksmiths to keep jurisdiction over their trade and strengthen it.

The amalgamation, in the works for several years, was approved by the delegates as they wound up their annual convention in the city.

The delegates were told that the amalgamation was recommended by the union's general executive board, headed by John L. Berger, former president.

George Barma, general vice president, said the amalgamation was consummated at a joint convention of both unions in 1948.

There will be a joint session of the two executive boards that he said, to set out the details of the merger.

Officers of the blacksmiths will be absorbed into the boltermakers and will receive their assignments from the joint chiefs.

# U. S. Pay Raises Up to Congress; AFL Seeks Action

Washington—Pay raises for 2.5 million U. S. government workers is eagerly up to Congress.

The AFL Laborers' union stabilization agencies have waived all objections to any pay raise for workers within the national stabilization program.

"The granting of any such increases is a matter for determination

by the Congress," Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston said.

The AFL Government Employees Council, representing 24 federal agencies, has also taken no objection to the pay raise.

Mr. Johnston's reply cleared the way for a White House recommendation to Congress for a pay raise.

The House of Representatives has legislation, laid in both houses, which would raise pay of public employees, the first since October 1949.

FORMER UNION OFFICIALS  
London—Britain's new Minister of Labor, Alfred Robens, is a former official of the Union of Shipbuilders and Allied Workers. He has been in the House of Commons since 1945.



## Organize Nonunion Workers No Job, McFetridge Holds

Milwaukee, Wis.—Today, as in 1921, our big job is to organize the thousands of building service workers who have not yet known the benefits of unionism.

That No. 1 objective for the AFL Building Service Employees International Union was set by President William L. McFetridge in his leading statement in the special anniversary issue of the BSEIU "Report to Locals" on the 30th anniversary of the union.

"We have come a long way since 1921," Mr. McFetridge said. "We can look back over those 30 years with a feeling of pride in the accomplishments of our organization."

"We have built up a large membership, we have developed well organized and efficient locals, and we have constantly increased the services that we render to members. Above all, we have tremendously improved the lot of the building service worker."

"Our job, however, is not complete until we organize all of the building service workers who still lack union status outside our ranks. In order to do the best possible job for our members and others, we must swell their ranks to the point where no unorganized worker remains to stand as a threat to the standards we have won."

The international was chartered April 29, 1921.

## Educator Tells Why He Joined Union

Toledo, O.—Local 250 of the AFL American Federation of Teachers presented an outline of its policies and practices to the Future Teachers of America at the University of Toledo.

In connection with the presentation of the local's bulletin published the statement of George S. Conner, American educator, in which he joined the American Federation of Teachers.

"People join the American Federation of Teachers, as they do other things, for different reasons. Some of these reasons have been 2 major considerations."

"First, organized working people must have the staunchest and most dependable friends in the government in the United States. In the great battles for freedom in the last three years ago, the early workingmen's associations played a central role. The record of their cooperation of labor, since its founding in 1818, is support of the public schools is incomparably more enlightened and consistent than that of any other important organization of educational leaders. Indeed, in some respects this organization of laborers, men and women has shown far more understanding and vision than the teachers."

"Second, organized labor, more than any other element in the population, is carrying on the old struggle for human freedom. The future of American democracy may well rest on the intelligence, the strength, the courage of organized labor."

"I joined the American Federation of Teachers because of the reasons I've mentioned long ago that organized labor believes in and is fighting for—things which I believe in and am fighting for. And because I know that in this union there is strength."

## Waymen Knock CIO Off the Santa Fe

Washington.—The AFL Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees won the bargaining rights for 15,000 workers on the Santa Fe Railroad away from the CIO United Railroad Workers who had represented the employees for 6 years.

The brotherhood has represented the workers of its craft on 100 percent of the mileage of railroads in the United States and Canada.

"We welcome the Santa Fe employees into the family of the AFL," said the brotherhood. "We represent 70,000 of way workers in the United States and Canada who are now represented by our brotherhood," President T. C. Carroll said.

"We are confident that the change in representation will redound to their benefit."

## 11 FIRMS MUST PAY

San Francisco.—The National Retail Clerks who locked out 230 AFL Retail Clerks in the summer of 1948 must reimburse them for wages lost during a month's shutdown, the National Labor Relations Board ruled.

## Birth of a Union

By GUS VAN BECK  
Vice President AFL Building Service Employees International Union  
(From the Special BSEIU 30th Anniversary Issue of the Report to Locals, monthly special publication of the BSEIU, Milwaukee, Wis.)

In the days before the International Union was founded, I remember the men who were negotiating for the Flat Janitors Union of Chicago (now Local 1) had a really hard time dealing with the Real Estate Board.

"Why should we deal with you," they said, "when flat janitors are not organized in any other city? Why should we pay your people higher rates than are paid anywhere else?"

We got tired of hearing remarks like that. Bill Quesse, especially, decided that something should be done about the situation. And something was done: the International Union was chartered in 1921.

It was now, however, not merely a desire to protect the Chicago flat janitors which made Bill Quesse work for the international union. The thing that inspired Quesse most profoundly—and which also inspired other early leaders of the local and international unions—was a clear understanding that only unionization could improve the wretched lot of the building service workers.

I remember all too clearly the conditions under which flat janitors lived and worked at the time Local 1 was formed. The hours were long, the pay was pitifully small, the hours were limited. No janitor could get a job unless he was strong enough to lift a barrel of the work. Living quarters were a few of the work. Bill Quesse took over a rooming house which usually meant a basement apartment that would be flooded during a heavy rain.

Quesse was fired by the need to win just and fair treatment for these workers. He saw a national organization of local building service unions as the solution. After the local union was formed, and until his untimely death, he gave untiringly of his time and ability in order to bring his dream to a powerful reality.

No one has written the history of those early years. From the '30s there remain only a few lines of history. The official magazine of the international union—was a clear and useful suggestion of the struggle that went into the formation of the union.

But while the history is not complete, it is clear that the real period of the union's growth was the period when Bill Quesse took over the presidency. When the union's finances were a hundred dollars, the international union had about 60,000 members. (Today it has 3 times as many.) The union's finances were a hundred dollars, the international union had about 60,000 members.

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came an effective means of educating and informing our members.

A death gratuity system has been set up and now pays about \$10,000 a year to the beneficiaries of deceased members. Legal aid, statistical aid, and other kinds of assistance have been extended to local unions.

The affiliated locals have also been making terrific forward strides during the last decade. Wages have increased, hours shortened, conditions of work vastly improved. In many cases employer-paid health and welfare plans have been negotiated. Many locals have built up large memberships, expanding into new areas and new industries. Several unions own their own buildings. And several, including New York Local 22B, Chicago Local 1, and a group of California locals, have endowed university scholarships for the children of their members.

The progress that we have made in the past decade can only be suggested in the briefest of terms. But those of us who are familiar with it, those of us who have seen it happen, must marvel at what has happened. We have many jobs to do but the progress made in the past decade is tremendous. And it shows one thing quite clearly: the desire to help the building service worker, which inspired Bill Quesse to his great efforts, still lives and breathes.

Photo Harry Rubenstein, Justice-ILGWU, 110 Broadway, New York, N. Y.  
FIRST ILGWU CLASS GRADUATED—New York—Julius Hochman, vice president AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union, left, and student the Gordon (right) diploma upon completion of 12-months course with the first class in ILGWU Training Institute. Looking on, L. to R., ILGWU President David Dubinsky, Dress Industry Industrial Chairman Harry Uviller and AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany.

## BACK POINT 4

New York.—The Department of International Justice and Goodwill and the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches said, in a detailed evaluation of the church's relation to the Point IV program, that the major emphasis should be upon the voluntary service the church might render to insure the fulfillment of the high ideals and aspirations of the Point IV concept.

The conference said that the aim of any international development program must be to meet human needs, regardless of religious, political or racial distinctions.

Buy Independence Bonds.

## Defense Production Act Proposals Fall Short of Nation's Needs

Washington.—The proposals of President Truman and Defense Administration Administrator Charles E. Wilson for changing the Defense Production Act fall short of the nation's requirements.

The report recommended that the act be extended 2 years beyond its June 30 expiration date and that federal government agencies be given more credits be strengthened.

An analysis of the recommendations shows these shortcomings: (1) The act separates the functions of price control and wage stabilization.

It does not direct price control authorities to establish, wherever possible, dollar-and-cent price ceilings. Except for one minor change, it fails to remove specific exemptions from price controls in a number of

fields where such exemptions are not warranted.

It does not authorize establishment of standards of quality, specification or performance for products for price control purposes.

It continues the provision which prohibits any interference with tailors shifting from their low-priced to their high-priced products.

It fails to include specific standards for wage stabilization such as inclusion of the cost of living, maintenance of collective bargaining agencies, hardships and inequities, and substantial amount of pay.

It fails to remove from the definition of wages employer contributions to health, welfare and pension funds and other non-inflationary, non-wage items.

While it requires consultation with all affected groups (including business, labor, farmers and consumers) in the price control program, no such requirement applies to other programs authorized by the act.

## HOUSEWIFES LEISURE

Washington.—Most housewives have only 1 or 2 hours of leisure time each day, according to a study made by the Institute of Living at the University of Connecticut in 1948. The study found that housewives in urban and rural communities in 5 midwestern states.

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